

Family Availability - VICC Activity - 5/8/15

How are we finding out from families why the data show they aren't able to do what they want, what promotes their ability to connect/participate, what are some of the barriers. How do we get at that? [consider: where else is this already happening - is anyone already gathering this data]

What are families actually need (event) or what would make an existing event actually accessible. How far are you willing to travel. What are you willing to spend?

"Vermont go find and seek" web site. There are web sites that list activities for families.

How do you find out if activity planners consider family accessibility issues? Could we work with web Sites that ask every poster to answer about family accessibility? Look at the current format and see how you can build on this.

First: find out what families need

Second: find out what we can provide for info. or for a response

BBF can be a help with regional councils and getting more statewide data on these family activity web sites. What might they already be doing.

How are families finding out about community activities now? WCAX, web sites, child care/school postings, Kids VT/7 days, Head Start Newsletters, home visitors, parent to parent info. sharing, Facebook,

Getting families to activities the first time is the tough part. Once they get there, the family gets there themselves.

VFN has some families doing Facebook groups

Ask the people who are seeing families to give us their impression of the transportation is like, what barriers they see, what the families they see need. Survey that both practitioners and families take together... This would be a good dialogue between the provider and the family.

What is the perspective of service providers (pediatricians, child care, etc...) who serve young children about what they think families need and what the barriers are for them accessing community activities.

MH -

haven't trained practitioners to have conversations with families about adult MH needs.

People feel they have to fix it... versus just being there to listen.

"I don't know the answer, maybe we should talk about who might be able to help you..."

Cross-over with CSPD - we do a disservice to EI folks if we aren't training them to interact with all kinds of families: have family systems theory, strengths based, routines-based, parents as experts, know your own triggers; how your values inform you...

PTOP web site search engine: put in your zip code and some other info. and it will give you a list of providers for you.

all this comes down to relationship and communication...

ECFMH Consultant (Brenda): will she be able to get at the impact and what's being missed when she does the community resource mapping.

HeadStart has regional mental health consultant - so families can see a family within the same week. Not meant to be long term. If they feel the family needs long-term help, they will make a referral to another provider. These folks do consultation in the classroom and attend "Family Outings" doing "education" and build relationships.

Can ECFMH Consultant compare our ECFMH model to what HeadStart does - talk to Kristi about what data they have that shows this model is working. HeadStart refers to private providers as well... Pam is very supportive of HeadStart model. Dana is very critical of CIS model. Even though, in premise, they are the same. Dana especially likes that HS can work directly with the parent, where CIS doesn't tend to...

If Parents want to start up a support group or a play group there is support for them to do that... CIS or BBF would know the resources available for this...

How is culture considered with community activity participation and MH

Have to contextualize this work in relation to the larger systems work. How can this inform the larger system?

Can/should the VICC take a position/role in this?

Paul has HS info. statewide.... Pam can get this...